

Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council

Minutes

Monday April 1, 2019

Largent Center - McFadden Room

915 1st Ave. South 3:00 pm -5:00 pm

Members Present Jane Weber, Trista Besich, Dusti Zimmer, Linda Daggett, Amee Ellsworth, Robert Moccasin, Jesse Slaughter, Jane Wilson, Gayle Snyder, Ginny Carnes, Shawn Matsko, Tom Osborn, Steve Humphries-Wadsworth, Cassidy Blomgren

Guests Present Susie McIntyre (Great Falls Public Library)

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 3:07 PM by Jane Weber reminding the group that she would chair the meeting until officers are elected. All appointees and guest introduced themselves, stated their representative organization and interest in serving. The Members were reminded to print and bring their own meeting information each time.

Review and Approval of Minutes from March 4, 2019 The March meeting Minutes were approved with two small corrections.

History of the LAC Organization Jane Wilson did a synopsis of the history of the organization; she has been involved since its inception:

- Local Advisory Councils were established in 1999 by legislation passed at the State level for the purpose of more stakeholder/consumer/grass-roots input about mental health needs and policy.
- The Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) was also established. The CSAA consists of the three regions within the state representing the LACs in their region and they meet monthly.
- In Montana, there are about 30 LACs in 3 three regions-Western, Central, and Eastern.
- LACs are either connected to county government or are independent stakeholder groups.
- They all require that at least 50% of their membership be individuals who have lived experience with mental illness and/or family members of those who have lived experience.
- Through the CSAA, the LACs receive some State funding for their projects.
- Addiction and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) website has an LAC toolkit for in-depth information about the LACs.
- Some accomplishments of the Cascade County LAC: Obtained grant for Peer Support, got Medicaid funding for some ER visits, worked on recovery model for New Directions, helped establish Crisis Steering Committee, Response Team, Crisis Intervention Training, funded Mental Health First Aid in the community, community outreach projects including public service announcements, legislative support.

Review of the By-Laws Jane Weber reviewed roles and responsibilities of the CCMHLAC and board function:

- Our LAC is an advisory group. Our purpose is to identify gaps in the mental health services.
- Our funds need to go through the Cascade County Budget office.
- Applications for Grants will need permission through the County.
- Jane Weber, County Commissioner, will be a non-voting member, unless a tie.
- Each Member is appointed for a 4-year term, the terms will be staggered.
- A conflict of interest by any Member must be stated at the meetings and recuse themselves from voting.
- Prior notice of 48 hours will be given for any meeting.
- There will be three offices: Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer.
- Public comment will be part of the agenda and public participation encouraged.
- Sub Committees need to have a Board Member Chair.

Treasurer's Report Linda reported that there is \$4,524.58 in the checking Account. In the near future, this money will need to be transferred to the Cascade County with a line item designated. Spending will go through the County Budget office.

Election of Officers Process Ginny made a motion to create a Nominating Committee and Steve seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED. Ginny, Steve, and Greg agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee; they will recommend a slate of officers to be voted on at the May meeting. Those interested in the offices should notify one of the Committee members

Old Business Legislative activities:

- Ginny reported that Senate Bill 30 to designate Peer Support Specialists for Medicaid reimbursement was back and forth in Committee. They are considering a decreased reimbursement rate which is not optimal for Peer Support Specialists.
- Tom reported that in House Bill 2, there could be some re-instated Targeted Case Management Mental Health Services for Children depending on how they decide to structure the bill.

New Business Jane reminded the group that no new business was brought for the agenda this time and if here are items for new business, this needs to come to the Chair for next agenda.

Standing Committee Reports

Executive Committee None at this time

Suicide Prevention Committee Greg reported that Tiffany Sweeny is the new Chair of the Committee, Greg is the Past Chair. He will be encouraging a focus on senior mental health and interfaith activities.

Representative Reports

Crisis Services: Crisis Steering Committee, Response Team (CRT), Crisis Intervention Training (CIT):

- Steve and Dusti reported there will be a meeting with stakeholders i.e. Alluvion, Tim Dallacqua's group and Benefis regarding crisis services 10-11:00 on April 2nd.
- The Crisis Response Team is mostly being staffed by Center for Mental Health.
- Dusti reported that 82% of the crisis calls come in 8-5 on weekdays and they are having trouble staffing those calls generally. The weekends are better, but they are working on getting better coverage for the crisis calls. Crisis calls are mostly referred from law enforcement.
- Susie expressed a need for a mental health crisis resource, other than law enforcement, for those who are in the Library but not rising to the level of calling law enforcement.
- The Crisis Steering Committee meets once a month and there are several LAC members serving on that.
- Sheriff Slaughter reported that there was a funding glitch with the November CIT Training and this will need to be resolved before the next training is set up in the Fall.

Media and Communication update Jane Wilson reported:

- Jane is the administrator of the Facebook page and has been posting things of interest. For an added fee, Facebook will reach more people.
- The LAC email account is set up.
- Greg and Tom have located the PSA we used before and will look into getting it out again.
- Tom suggested a model he has seen used for another organization that may be useful for getting mental health information and education out to the general public. Tom, Greg, and Jane Wilson will look into this model.

CSAA Report Jane Wilson reported that she has not been getting notification of the meetings, it is usually on the 4th Friday of the month. She will continue to represent our LAC on the CSAA, if the group desires.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members:

Peer Support Center for Mental Health now has Certified Peer Support Specialists and are working with the court. They are available to all who could use Peer support.

No More Violence Week Jane Weber reminded the group of this week's activities: *Converge* is a play highlighting real, local mental health stories. There are events at MSU Great Falls all this week.

Mental Health America Great Falls (MHAGF) Linda reported that the group is planning an Annual Dinner on May 17th and are looking to get the word out to as many as possible. Some may be contacted asking to distribute the invitation as appropriate.

County Commission Jane Weber reminded members that they could request a proclamation to be read at a Commission meeting, but the request has to be submitted a month prior.

Benefis Amee reported that the hospital is holding Mayfair. This is a community-wide fundraiser for the Women's and Children's Center. On April 16th at 5:30 in the Cameron Room is a Healthy Minds and Bodies presentation.

Library Susie reported that the Library will host an Emilo Estavez movie on the homeless in the Library and she may want to include a panel discussion afterward. In May, the Library hosts an information table on mental health.

Personal Story Jane Wilson shared a personal story about a mental health/suicidal crisis she witnessed and assisted with. She described a close relative in crisis, the importance of an attentive and informed ER staff that recognized the gravity of the crisis at the attending hospital, and the life-saving result.

Public Comment There was no further public comment.

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 PM by Jane Weber, Acting Chair.

Jane Weber
County Commissioner, Acting Chair

Date_____

Next Meeting: Monday, May 6, 2019

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